

Title of Session: Physics and Physical Science Teachers Collaboration

Moderator: Pat Viele

Title of File: 20090323physics

Date: March 23, 2009

Room: Physics Teachers Group

PatV: Hi Stephani and BJ. Welcome

BjB waves hi to everyone!

StephaniVC: Ah, good, I'm in the right place!

CrystalC: Hello Everyone!!!!!!

ElizabetAM: Hello!

PamRM joined the room.

PamRM: hello everyone

PatV: I see this room being used to share idea and materials. Does anyone have any specific questions or requests?

PatV: Hi Pam. Welcome

CrystalC: no not yet.

PamRM: Is this the correct location for physics and science?

BjB nods to Pam

PamRM: thanks

StephaniVC: This is my first time here -- I'll see what others want to know!

ElizabetAM: I agree.

PatV: I am just getting caught up from my last AAPT meeting. I have a very classy bookmark for scigames.org. You might like to check out the site.

<http://www.scigames.org/>

PamRM: great, thanks

CrystalC: ok thanks

PaulZ joined the room.

PaulZ: Hello, all

PatV: In response to questions from educators, I have collected web sites using connotea. Connotea is a free service of Nature Publishing Group.

<http://www.connotea.org/user/pviele>

StephaniVC: Scigames looks neat, though there's not that much there yet.

PatV: Hi Paul. Do you have any questions or requests?

ElizabetAM: This is a very neat site. I like the interactive features.

BjB : <http://www.scigames.org/>

CrystalC: ok thanks

BjB . o O (hold the ctrl key down when you click on the url)

PatV: Thanks BJ. I'm still kind of new at this!

BjB : Jeff and I are happy to help ;-)

PaulZ: No questions yet. Have any of you heard about the use of the Wii controller for physics applications?

PatV: My connotea collection can be sorted on any of the words to the left of the screen. For example, K-12 refers to lesson plans, women refers to women in science.

PatV: Paul. No I haven't. Have you had experience with it?

PamRM: No, Paul, I have not heard about the use of the Wii controller for phy. app.

PaulZ: I bought one and have played with it.

StephaniVC: One thing I've been checking out today is the COPUS Year of Science page. You can look for items in your local community. It's a grassroots effort to enhance public understanding of science. <http://copusproject.org>. And March is Physics Month so there's a bunch of information on physicists (including me!)

here: http://www.yearofscience2009.org/themes_physics_technology/celebrate/

PamRM: cool

CrystalC: I agree very cool

PaulZ: It has a three-axis accelerometer and can be connected to any computer with bluetooth. It also has a IR camera and you can use an IR LED to make a cheap smartboard.

PatV: I am not familiar with wii. Do you anticipate using it in the classroom?

PatV: Stephanie, would you like to mention your blog?

PaulZ: I'm on my retirement furlough year. No more teaching--at least for now.

StephaniVC: How many folks here are newer teachers?

PamRM: I am graduating in May, but I am interested in elementary science....would this be the place for me?

PatV: I am a librarian, but I did teach a class on Friday on good web sources for STEM educators

CrystalC: Well I am doing my student teaching right now but I graduate in May.

CarolineH joined the room.

BjB : a reminder if you are new to Tapped In, go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select larger text

PatV: Pam, there are other rooms that might be of more interest to you, for example Science Sources K-20

StephaniVC: I do teacher PD programs myself... not a teacher...

PatV: Hi Caroline. Welcome

BjB . o O (and the Birdsleuth group, Pam ;-)

CarolineH: Hi. Sorry to be late.

PamRM: ok, I think I will try Birdsleuth, thanks.

StephaniVC: But we just created a new podcast for teachers (probably mostly middle and high school) at the Exploratorium -- <http://www.exploratorium.edu/ti/podcasts/>. Tips for teaching, science stories, hands-on activities...

PamRM left the room.

CrystalC: ok thanks for the information!

PatV: Stephanie. Thanks!

StephaniVC: If you don't know the Exploratorium, they have a wealth of hands on activities you can make using paper clips and duct tape. Anyone use their Science Snacks?

CarolineH: We highlight them in The Physics Front library all the time.

PatV: Could we introduce ourselves? For example, I am Pat Viele. I have been the physics and astronomy librarian at Cornell for 15 years.

CrystalC: no this is my first time joining this group. What are science snacks

PatV: I love the science snacks!

PatV: Take is away Stephanie.

StephaniVC: I'm Stephanie Chasteen -- physicist, educator, blogger -- previously at the Exploratorium Teacher Institute. The science snacks are "snack" sized versions of the Exploratorium exhibits. <http://www.exploratorium.edu/snacks/>

CarolineH: Hi, I'm Caroline Hall, associate editor for the K-12 and Introductory Physics collections of the ComPADRE digital libraries.

CrystalC: Hello! I am Crystal. I'm currently doing student teaching and I graduate in May.

PaulZ: I'm Paul Zitzewitz at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. I've taught there since 1973. Since 2000 I've been teaching physics for future elementary teachers.

PatV: Paul, do you have any special web sites in mind?

PatV: Elizabeth, we haven't heard from you....

PaulZ: None that haven't been mentioned by your of are on ComPADRE.

CarolineH: Crystal, what grade level will you be teaching?

PatV: The way that I see Tapped In being useful is to hold a virtual meeting like this once a month and invite people to share their favorite web sites. It is really good that Tapped In sends a transcript of the session via email.

StephaniVC: Oh, that will be helpful!

CrystalC: hmmm.... good question! I really want anything between 2nd and 4th.

PatV: Tapped In also automatically sets up a listserv for the group. If you have a specific question, you can poll the group.

StephaniVC: How many people are on that listserv?

CrystalC: oh yes I do agree with the transcript. It makes it easier to learn and pay attention instead of trying to take notes.

PaulZ: Crystal--Have you seen Physics and Everyday Thinking (formerly Physics for Elementary Teachers) by Fred Goldberg, Valerie Otero. It has a set of great activities for grades 2-5. Just in Time Teaching publishes it.

CrystalC: I'm not on listserv yet.

CrystalC: Ok thanks I will check it out!

StephaniVC: I'm in the same department (roughly) as Valerie. PET is really great, and based on solid research.

PatV: I also write a blog "Pat's Picks for STEM Educators". One of my first entries was on good web sites for younger children. <http://expertvoices.nsd.org/pats-picks/2008/05/06/science-sites-for-young-children-parents-and-teachers/>

PaulZ: Our students loved it. The activities are actually called PET Jr activities.

CrystalC: ok great!

PatV: Stephanie. This group currently has 20 members, but membership is growing. I hope to enroll RET (research experience for teachers) participants and others.

StephaniVC: I also write a blog on the NSDL network... <http://expertvoices.nsd.org/sciencegeekgirl>. More for grades 8-14 on science education research, teaching tips, and just cool science stuff that I think educators would like. Drop on by... There are only a few posts so far, but I've been blogging for years at my primary blog at <http://sciencegeekgirl.com>.

StephaniVC: Wow, so we got 8 out of 20 members here now? That's a great turnout.

CarolineH: There are some fabulous web sites for teaching physical science in the elementary grades. I always recommend OPPS, (Operation Primary Physical Science). OPPS guides provide elementary school teachers with inquiry-based learning methods for teaching about light, motion, sound, properties of matter, and more. You can find the guides on The Physics Front: <http://www.thephysicsfront.org>

PatV: Paul thanks for mentioning the PET Jr activities. I was not aware of them My hope is that we can attract experienced people like Paul to offer support and encouragement to newer teachers.

PaulZ: Arbor Science (<http://arborsci.com>) has some "Cool Stuff" with good teaching tips.

PatV: Do you want to pause a bit to explore the resources mentioned?

CrystalC: yes that would be great!

StephaniVC: Good idea... then maybe we can come back with questions?

PatV: That's good. I will still be here, but quiet for a while. If you have a question just shout it out!

CrystalC: ok

PatV: Paul, the arborsci.com link doesn't work.

StephaniVC: Works for me. www.arborsci.com.

PaulZ: One of my favorite blogs is <http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/cosmicvariance/>

BjB: worked for me also

PaulZ: Yes, you need the www. I guess Arbor didn't grab the simplified url as well.

StephaniVC: Hello Cathy! (it's Stephanie Chasteen)

PatV: OK. Looks like I have a gremlin. Do any of you use wikis? You might like to look at "Pretty Good Physics". It was recommended to me by two physics teachers locally. <http://prettygoodphysics.wikispaces.com/>

CathyE: Hi Stephanie

CrystalC: ok

StephaniVC: I've heard good things about Pretty Good Physics from a lot of teachers.

PatV: Hi Cathy. We have been sharing lots and lots of web sites.

StephaniVC: Caroline, I wasn't able to find that resource you mentioned on Physics Front.

CathyE: great

CarolineH: Stephanie, just type OPPS in the search box at the top of the home page when you get to The Physics Front.

BjB: Glad you were able to join the discussion, Nalini

PatV: Hello Nalini. Welcome.

NaliniS: hi

CarolineH: Hey, all.....sorry, but I have to go now. I'm really looking forward to being part of this group!

PatV: Is everyone a member of the group? If not, would you like to join?

NaliniS: I just joined

PatV: Bye Caroline. Thanks for joining us.

CathyE: I am, already, Pat, I think.

BjB: joining the group allows you to communicate with each other asynch using the threaded discussion board

NaliniS: but missed your discussion

CathyE: Messed around trying to find the enable chat button. Sorry I was late

PatV: Nalini: I can send you a list of the web sites we mentioned. We have been having lots of fun exploring.

BjB: Pat, do you plan on making this a regular discussion that will be on the calendar?

NaliniS: I am a middle school teacher,

CarolineH left the room (signed off).

PaulZ: Won't the websites be listed in the transcript?

PatV: Yes, I would like to make this a regular discussion. What do you think of the time slot?

CathyE: Usually ok with me. Would you do this once per month?

PatV: Yes, the web sites will be in the transcript.

CrystalC: Well I think 6 is a good time.

PatV: Once a month for a regular meeting and the listserve for questions in between. Crystal what time zone?

CrystalC: CST

NaliniS: we can add website to pagekeeper and

PatV: pagekeeper?

PaulZ: Bye for now.

PaulZ left the room (signed off).

CathyE: When will the transcript be available, Pat?

PatV: The transcript comes quite quickly after the session ends.

CathyE: Great, sorry I missed the beginning discussions.

BjB: I'll also edit the script and it will be online in a couple of weeks at www.tappedin.org/transcripts

CathyE: Thanks

PatV: I like the real time chat much better than email listservs. Anyone else?

CathyE: Yes,

CathyE: I like to use Elluminate, as well as it has a voice feature, too.

BjB: Pat will post a reminder of the next meeting to the discussion board ;-), right, Pat?

StephaniVC: It will be interesting to see how well the listserv is used....sometimes it's easier to think of a question when you're in the middle of the quandary (rather than waiting for the real time chat time)

StephaniVC: I love Elluminate...

BjB agrees with Stephanie that sometimes you think of a question or have an idea between real time text chats

CathyE: Skype allows video so you can see your participants

PatV: I am not familiar with Elluminate. If you have a burning question, you can query

the group via the listserv.

CrystalC: ok great.

PatV: Are there any specific topics you would like discussed next month?

StephaniVC: Are there any major "months" coming up... like month of the ocean or something?

CathyE: How about great simulations?

CathyE: Energy is the topic for April

PatV: Thanks Cathy. IS that a volunteer I have?

NaliniS: Earth week

CathyE: According to the Year of Science list on COPUS

StephaniVC: Either Energy or Simulations would be pretty great.

StephaniVC: If I'm around, I can chime in with some info on PhET simulations.

CathyE: I could highlight some features of ThePhysicsFront collection of simulations

CathyE: But, I need a date as I am in and out of town in April

StephaniVC: And PhET also has some energy simulations too.

PatV: OK. I'll see if I can line up some guest speakers. Actually, it looks like I already have them!

CathyE: 20th or 27th of April?

BjB: Pat, did you want to schedule for the 4th Monday of April (27th) at the same time?

PatV: OK. We will go with the 27th.

CrystalC: ok great

PatV: If I go with 6PM CST, that would mean 9PM here. That is past my bed time! Sorry Crystal.

StephaniVC: Too bad, I won't be able to join on the 27th.

CrystalC frowns

BjB thinks 6pm CST is 7pm EDT

BjB : 6pm PDT = 9pm EDT

StephaniVC: Yeah, I that's right BJ

BjB : what about a compromise...8pm EDT?

CathyE: Please send a reminder

PatV: Time zones confuse me. OK. I can do 8PM EDT.

PatV: Yes, I will send a reminder.

CrystalC: do you know what that is CST?

BjB : you can also get a twitter reminder from tappedinorg

BjB : 8pm EDT=7pm CDT

CathyE: 7pm CST

CrystalC: ok cool thanks!

StephaniVC: I got to run, this was good, good evening everyone!

CathyE: Sorry, forgot we're on daylight time.

BjB : check the internal Tapped In calendar...it's set to your time zone

CathyE: Ok, bye.

StephaniVC: bye!

CathyE: ok

BjB . o O (Tapped In tab and then calendar in the blue menu bar)

PatV: Bye everyone. Thanks for visiting.

CrystalC: ok bye !

CathyE: bye, now. "see" you, next month.